

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 04 MAY 2006

In re the Application of

Shigeru HANZAWA et al.

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/016305

Filed: May 4, 2006

Docket No.: 127902

For: FURNACE AND DEGREASING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

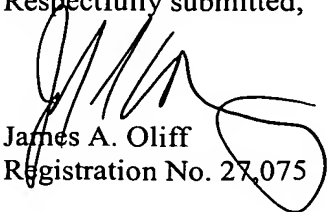
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of one or more non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. See Reference 4.
- ☒ 3. One or more reference cited herein was cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 1-3.
- ☒ 4. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 1-4.
- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1 & 3-4.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong  
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/nxy

Date: May 4, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC  
P.O. Box 19928  
Alexandria, Virginia 22320  
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE  
AUTHORIZATION  
Please grant any extension  
necessary for entry;  
Charge any fee due to our  
Deposit Account No. 15-0461

|   |  |   |  |                                      |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Form PTO-1449<br>(REV. 1/06)  |  | US Dept. of Commerce<br>PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE |  | ATTY DOCKET NO.<br>127902            |  | APPLICATION NO.<br>New U.S. National<br>Stage of<br>PCT/JP2004/016305 |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT<br><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) |  |   |  | APPLICANTS<br>Shigeru HANZAWA et al. |  |   |  |
|   |  |   |  | FILING DATE<br>May 4, 2006           |  |   |  |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |             |                 |      |      |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|------|------|
| Examiner<br>Initials  | Cite<br>No. | Document Number | Date | Name |
|                       |             |                 |      |      |
|                       |             |                 |      |      |
|                       |             |                 |      |      |
|                       |             |                 |      |      |
|                       |             |                 |      |      |
|                       |             |                 |      |      |
|                       |             |                 |      |      |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |             |                  |            |         |                             |                                |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------------|------------|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials     | Cite<br>No. | Document Number  | Date       | Country | With<br>English<br>Abstract | With<br>English<br>Translation |
|                          | 1.          | JP-A-2002-340482 | 11/27/2002 | JAPAN   | X                           | X                              |
|                          | 2.          | JP-A-63-315576   | 12/23/1988 | JAPAN   | X                           |                                |
|                          | 3.          | JP-A-05-001807   | 01/08/1993 | JAPAN   | X                           | X                              |
|                          | 4.          | JP-A-2003-302166 | 10/24/2003 | JAPAN   | X                           | X                              |
|                          |             |                  |            |         |                             |                                |

| OTHER DOCUMENTS      |             |  |
|----------------------|-------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials | Cite<br>No. | (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) |
|                      |             |  |
|                      |             |  |
|                      |             |  |
|                      |             |  |
|                      |             |  |
|                      |             |  |

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| EXAMINER  | DATE CONSIDERED |
| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. |                 |

Date: May 4, 2006